

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 AGR-01 XMB-02 TRSE-00 COME-00  
EB-08 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 H-01  
SP-02 L-03 /066 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JMSEYMOUR, JR:LG  
APPROVED BY EUR:WHLUERS  
EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT  
E:SBLACK

-----016142 141741Z /47

P 141705Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096198

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, EGEN, EEWT, CGEN, PL, US

SUBJECT: POLISH AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI'S CALL ON LUERS

1. SUMMARY: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS RECEIVED AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI APRIL 13 FOR HIS FIRST FORMAL CALL AND A REVIEW OF US-POLISH RELATIONS. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON WHOM SPASOWSKI WILL BE SEEING IN HIS INITIAL ROUND OF CALLS HERE AND ON THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS IN US-POLISH RELATIONS THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR. THE TWO ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE MAIN ISSUES IN BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND SPASOWSKI PROVIDED USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT MACHINE INDUSTRY MINISTER KOPEC'S RECENT VISIT. END SUMMARY.

2. SPASOWSKI STRESSED HIS INTENTION TO CONCENTRATE MAJOR ATTENTION ON POLAND'S ECONOMIC INTERESTS, PARTICULARLY ITS NEED FOR AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER CREDITS- HE SAID HE WOULD BE CALLING ON VARIOUS U.S. OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE  
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FOR THESE QUESTIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID HE HAS AN APPOINTMENT APRIL 14 WITH EXIM BANK CHAIRMAN MOORE. LUERS ENCOURAGED HIM TO SEE THE SECRETARIES OF AGRICULTURE, TREASURY, AND COMMERCE ALSO, AS WELL AS KEY CONGRESSMEN LIKE SENATOR MCGOVERN AND REPRESENTATIVE FOLEY.

3. SPASOWSKI SAID HE ALSO PLANS TO SEE MR. BRZEZINSKI

AND CONGRESSMEN O'NEILL, ZABLOCKI, AND ROSTENKOWSKI IN THE NEXT COUPLE WEEKS. LUERS ENCOURAGED SPASOWSKI EVENTUALLY TO GET TO KNOW OFFICIALS LIKE SOLOMON AND BERGSTEN AT TREASURY, WEIL AT COMMERCE, HATHAWAY AT AGRICULTURE, AND KING AT THE NSC.

4. SPASOWSKI SAID HE WANTS TO CALL ON SECRETARY VANCE AND DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER BUT WILL WAIT UNTIL HE HAS SOMETHING SPECIFIC TO DISCUSS. HE SAID HE MIGHT REQUEST APPOINTMENTS WITH THEM JUST BEFORE HE RETURNS TO WARSAW FOR TEN DAYS OF CONSULTATIONS ABOUT THE END OF MAY.

5. AT THE DEPARTMENT, LUERS ENCOURAGED SPASOWSKI TO MEET ALSO WITH UNDER SECRETARY COOPER AND SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR COOPER ALSO TO MEET WITH THE POLISH ECONOMIC SPECIALISTS COMING IN CONNECTION WITH THE US-POLISH ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING IN MID-MAY. SPASOWSKI HAD INFORMED LUERS OF HIS PLAN TO BRING TWO ENGLISH-SPEAKING ECONOMISTS HERE TO EXPLAIN POLAND'S ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION TO US OFFICIALS. SPASOWSKI ADDED THAT HE WANTS TO MAKE THIS A REGULAR EXCHANGE AND PLANS TO RECOMMEND THAT SOME ENGLISH-SPEAKING ECONOMISTS SPECIALIZING IN AGRICULTURAL MATTERS ATTEND THE AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP MEETING

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IN SEPTEMBER AND STAY FOR ADDITIONAL MEETINGS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS.

6. REGARDING POSTPONEMENT OF THE AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP SESSION, SPASOWSKI SAID IT HAD BEEN DONE AT HIS RECOMMENDATION. HE EXPLAINED THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR THE GROUP TO MEET IN SEPTEMBER, AFTER SECRETARY BERGLAND'S VISIT AND WHEN BOTH U.S. CCC CREDIT CAPABILITIES AND POLAND'S CROP SITUATION ARE CLEARER.

7. US-POLISH RELATIONS. ASKED TO NAME BOTH DIFFICULTIES AND AREAS OF PROGRESS IN OUR RELATIONS, LUERS REPLIED THAT THE MAJOR DIFFICULTY INVOLVES DIVIDED FAMILIES AND POLISH DENIALS OF VISAS TO AMERICANS OF POLISH AND JEWISH DESCENT. THIS WILL CONTINUE AS A SOURCE OF ANXIETY UNLESS A SOLUTION IS FOUND. THE SECOND AREA RELATES TO POLAND'S CANDOR IN PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT ITS ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES UPON WHICH WE CAN BASE OUR DECISIONS ABOUT ANY CREDITS. LUERS RECALLED THAT THIS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT THE JOINT TRADE COMMISSION MEETING IN NOVEMBER AND THAT MINISTER KISIEL'S VISIT IN DECEMBER HAD ESTABLISHED A GOOD FOUNDATION FOR CONTINUING DIALOG.

THIRDLY, LUERS STRESSED THE NEED TO AVOID RELAXING AFTER THE SUCCESSFUL VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT, OBSERVING THAT WE MUST CONTINUE THE MOMENTUM OF OUR RELATIONS AND, ESPECIALLY, TO ADDRESS POLAND'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS THROUGH A CONTINUING HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGE.

8. FOR HIS PART, SPASOWSKI CITED THE PROBLEM OF OCCASIONAL HARASSMENT OF POLISH DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. HE POINTED OUT THAT WHEN AN INCIDENT GETS REPORTED TO WARSAW, THE MESSAGE IS DISSEMINATED TO MANY GOVERNMENT OFFICES SIMULTANEOUSLY AND THERE IS A WIDE-SPREAD NEGATIVE REACTION. LUERS REPLIED THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THE RECENT PROBLEM AND WILL DO WHAT WE CAN ABOUT  
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IT. WHILE LEAVING THE BUILDING, SPASOWSKI INFORMED HIS ESCORT THAT POLISH OFFICIALS HAVE MET WITH U.S. SECURITY OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK AND HE THINKS THE LATEST LETTER FROM JANUSZ KOCHANSKI HAS BEEN GIVEN TO U.S. AUTHORITIES, AS WE HAD RECOMMENDED.

9. GIEREK VISIT. LUERS CONFIRMED THAT IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING IN PRINCIPLE THAT FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK WILL VISIT IN 1979, BUT WE PROBABLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO THINK ABOUT THE SPECIFIC DATES FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. SPASOWSKI SAID GIEREK HAD EXPRESSED TO HIM A PREFERENCE FOR EARLY FALL 1979.

10. OTHER VISITS. THE TWO DISCUSSED VARIOUS UPCOMING VISITS AND EVENTS THIS YEAR, MOST OF WHICH ARE WELL KNOWN. SPASOWSKI NOTED THAT SPEAKER O'NEILL HAS BEEN INVITED TO BRING A DELEGATION INCLUDING CONGRESSMEN ZABLOCKI AND ROSTENKOWSKI, IMPLYING A HOPE THIS WOULD OCCUR IN 1978.

11. COAL RESEARCH. SPASOWSKI SAID HE IS NOT SATISFIED AT PROGRESS IN OUR DIALOG ON THIS QUESTION, AND HE BLAMES THE POLISH SIDE. HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO EXAMINE THIS ISSUE THOROUGHLY BEFORE HE RETURNS TO WARSAW IN MAY. (WHILE LEAVING THE DEPARTMENT, HIS ESCORT SUGGESTED SPASOWSKI CALL ON APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AT THE ENERGY DEPARTMENT, SPASOWSKI INDICATED HE WOULD DO SO.)

12. KOPEC VISIT. SPASOWSKI PRAISED INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER (IH) FOR ITS THOROUGH PREPARATIONS AND SAID THE COMPANY HAD PRESENTED A NEW AND PROMISING PROPOSAL FOR A LICENSE AGREEMENT WHEREBY POLAND WOULD BUILD AN 8-TON TRUCK FOR IH. SPASOWSKI SAID THAT THE PROJECT  
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COULD EARN POLAND ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY  
IN EXPORTS TO THE U.S. AND IT WOULD HELP IH WHICH PREFERS

THAT ITS PLANTS HERE CONCENTRATE ON BIGGER TRUCKS. CHRISTOPHER

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014